

Andrew Jackson to Willie Blount, October 13, 1813, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO WILLIE BLOUNT.

[Camp Coffee, 1 October 13, 1813]

1 At this time Coffee was encamped on a bluff on the south side of the Tennessee River, opposite Ditto's Landing. Jackson later named the place Camp Coffee.

In consequence of the express received from Col Coffee on the morning of the eleventh, I left Camp Blount about ten Oclk A. M, of that day; and learning on the march, (not officially, [but] from men in whom it was believed that confidence might be placed,) that Major Gibson whom Col Coffee had sent out as a spy had been killed by the hostile Creeks, and that the Col and his regiment were in immediate and imminent danger we moved on to his relief with such rapidity as to reach Huntsville, a distance of 30 miles, at 20 minutes after seven P. M. Learning there that the intelligence which had hastened us, was false, we came on the next day more leisurely, and arrived at this encampment last night.

We have suffered considerable uneasiness in consequence of the tardiness of the contractors in furnishing the necessary supplies; but things appear now to be going on better; and we are assured by them, that we need henceforth entertain no apprehensions upon the subject of supplies. If they fulfil those assurances I shall leave this place between this and sunday. But three hundred of our men still remain without arms; and surely it cannot require a long time for West Tennessee to supply the deficiency. Agreeably to the tenour of your instructions to me, I have sent on expresses to the commanders of the

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forces from E Tennessee and of those from Georgia, carrying your letters, and requesting their speedy co-operation. I shall at all times advise you of my advances, and my intended movements when opportunities may offer.